

**REMARKS**

Claim 1 is currently amended. Support for the recitation greater than 15 parts by weight silica is based at least on Example 1. The composition described in Example 1 contained 15.4 parts by weight silica based on 100 parts by weight of the total amount of aliphatic polyester resin and plasticizer.

New claims 8 and 9 are added. The amount of silica is supported by Example 1 and page 11, lines 3 to 8.

Claims 1 to 9 are currently pending.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1 to 7 were rejected as obvious over JP 10-81815 of Ofuchi. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are not obvious over this reference.

As noted by the Examiner, Ofuchi does not exemplify a composition with more than 5 weight percent silica. Further, there is no overlap of the presently claimed range for silica and any amount taught by Ofuchi. Silica is added for a different purpose in the Ofuchi reference than in the pending application. In Ofuchi, silica is added to obtain suitable anti-blocking and slippage properties. In the pending application, however, silica is added to improve the heat resistance of the composition. Higher amounts of silica than those disclosed in Ofuchi are needed to achieve good heat resistance.

The pending claims are not obvious over Ofuchi. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection based on this reference.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.  
Examination and reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

April 30, 2008  
Date

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